



## OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

### **(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) Report 6 July - 5 August 2015**

6 August 2015

#### **(U) Table of Contents**

- 1. (U) Scope Note**
- 2. (U) Summary**
- 3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**
- 4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**
- 5. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**
- 6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References**

#### **1. (U) Scope Note**

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides info on piracy threats to, and criminal action against, merchant vessels worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

#### **2. (U) Summary**

A. (U) BANGLADESH: On 3 August, 12 pirates belonging to the Akash Bahini group attacked a group of small fishing trawlers in the Dhansiddhirchar area of the Sundarbans, kidnapping 12 fishermen.

B. (U) INDONESIA: On 3 August, two robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored chemical tanker in Belawan Anchorage.

C. (U) INDONESIA: On 31 July, five robbers armed with long knives attempted to board an underway bulk carrier 2.1nm southwest of Pulau Takong Kecil.

D. (U) VIETNAM: On 31 July, a Vietnam-flagged fishing ship reported that a group of pirates from three Chinese ships boarded and ransacked the ship in an area of the western Paracel Island group.

E. (U) SOUTH CHINA SEA: On 28 July, a barge under tow en route Kuantan Port, Malaysia was boarded.

F. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 July, an underway product tanker was boarded 5.6nm southwest of Pulau Nipah.

G. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 July, an unknown number of persons in an unlit boat attempted to board an underway tanker 5.1 nm southwest of Pulau Nipah.

H. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 July, an underway bulk carrier was boarded 4.3 nm southwest of Pulau Takong Kecil.

I. (U) INDIA: On 24 July, at 0445 local time, two robbers boarded an anchored product tanker in Kandla Port Anchorage.

J. (U) INDIA: On 23 July, at 2345 local time, two robbers boarded an anchored product tanker in Kandla Port Anchorage.

### 3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for August 2015. To apply for JMSDF escort, visit [http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html), please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932 Fax: +81-3-5253-1643 Email: INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp. (MSCHOA)

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Korean Navy convoy schedule for August 2015. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at INMARSAT: 00-870-773-110-374, Email: cheonghaeetg@navy.mil.kr. (MSCHOA)

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Chinese Navy convoy schedule for August 2015. For further information, please e-mail planavy@navy.mil.cn, or call Tel: 86 10 652 92218/96, Fax: 86 10 652 92245. (MSCHOA)

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for August 2015. To register, email dgcommcentre-dgs@nic.in or visit [www.dgshipping.com](http://www.dgshipping.com). Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22-22613636. (MSCHOA)

E. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Russian Navy convoy escort schedule for August 2015. For further information e-mail smb@msecurity.ru, isps@msecurity.ru or fax +7 (499) 642-83-29. (MSCHOA).

### 4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the last 30 days. Designation of a high-threat area is based on an assessment of all-source information relating to the existence of, or potential for, piracy and other crime, terrorism, civil unrest, or low-intensity conflict. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later learned to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

A. (U) **NORTH AMERICA:** No current incidents to report.

B. (U) **CENTRAL AMERICA - CARIBBEAN - SOUTH AMERICA:**

1. (U) CURACAO: On 7 July, a sailing yacht was boarded at night, but nothing was stolen. The yacht owner reported that thieves had attempted to cut steel cables securing a small dinghy to the yacht's main deck, but were unsuccessful. ([www.noonsite.com](http://www.noonsite.com))

C. (U) **ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA:** No current incidents to report.

D. (U) **NORTHERN EUROPE - BALTIC:** No current incidents to report.

E. (U) **MEDITERRANEAN - BLACK SEA:**

1. (U) LIBYA: On 18 July, Libyan war planes sank one ship and attacked a second vessel near the eastern city of Benghazi, according to a military spokesman for the country's internationally recognized government. According to the spokesman, "the vessel was sunk because it had loaded fighters, weapons and ammunition to support terrorism in the eastern region." (Reuters)

**F. (U) WEST AFRICA:**

1. (U) TOGO: On 14 July, near position 06:07 N - 001:16 E, Lome Anchorage, the deck watch of an anchored container ship noticed a wooden boat with five individuals and no lights circling the vessel with the intention of climbing on board. Alarm was raised, crew was mustered and all exterior lights turned on. Seeing crew alertness the occupants of the boat aborted their approach and moved away. No weapons were sighted. Togo Navy informed. (MTISC-GOG)
2. (U) NIGERIA: On 9 July, seven gunmen in two speedboats opened fire on the passenger vessel MV TARI while conveying passengers from Port Harcourt in Rivers State to Okpoama community in Bayelsa State. One person was killed in the attack and two persons, including the vessel's master, were kidnapped. (nationalmirroronline.net)

**G. (U) ARABIAN GULF: No current incidents to report.****H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN - EAST AFRICA:**

1. (U) SEYCHELLES: On 21 July, an unknown number of robbers boarded an anchored sailing yacht in Victoria Harbour and stole personal electronic items, a small amount of cash and the yacht's dinghy, tied alongside the yacht. The robbers used the stolen dinghy to board another yacht anchored nearby and stole additional personal electronic items and jewelry. The dinghy was founded abandoned on a nearby beach. Local police informed. (www.noonsite.com)
2. (U) SEYCHELLES: During the week of 21 July, two robbers boarded an anchored sailing yacht in Victoria Harbour. The yacht owner attempted to defend himself and his wife using a flare gun, but one robber took the flare gun away from the yacht owner and fired a flare round into the yacht cabin, starting a small fire. The robbers also attacked the yacht owner's wife using their fists and a broom handle. The robbers escaped with a few personal items. Local police informed. (www.noonsite.com)
3. (U) KENYA: On 20 July, two robbers attempted to board a berthed product tanker during cargo operations near position 04:04 S - 039:40 E, Mbaraki Terminal, Mombasa Port. Alert crew and shore watchmen noticed the robbers as they attempted to gain access via the mooring lines and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew the robbers aborted and moved away. Port control and coast guard informed. A coast guard patrol boat was sent to investigate. (IMB)

## I. (U) EAST ASIA - SOUTHEAST ASIA - INDIAN SUBCONTINENT:

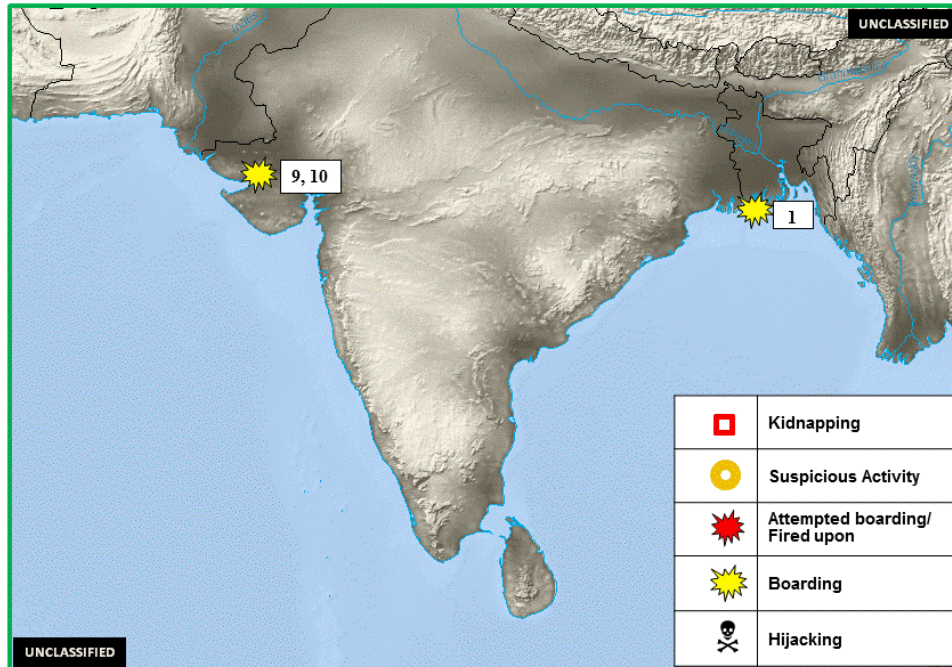


Figure 1. East Asia - Southeast Asia -  
Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime  
Crime

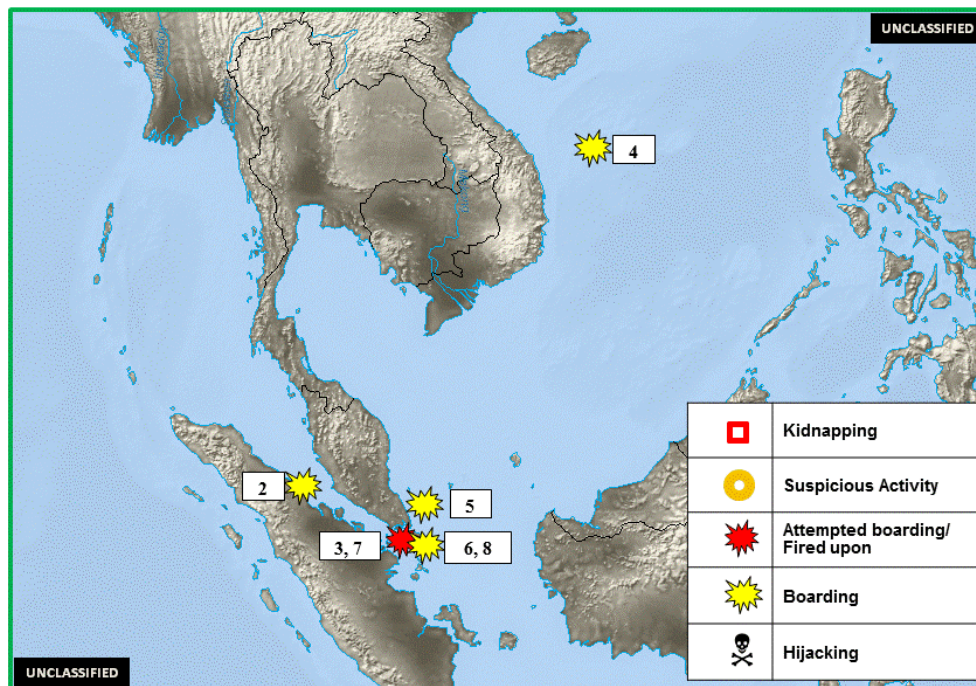


Figure 2. East Asia - Southeast Asia -  
Indian Subcontinent Piracy and Maritime  
Crime

1. (U) BANGLADESH: On 3 August, 12 pirates belonging to the Akash Bahini group attacked a group of small fishing trawlers in the Dhansiddhirchar area of the Sundarbans. The pirates ransacked several of the trawlers and kidnapped 12 local fishermen. The pirate group has reportedly demanded a ransom for each fishermen within a seven-day period. ([www.newagebd.net](http://www.newagebd.net))
2. (U) INDONESIA: On 3 August, two robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored chemical tanker near position 03:56 N - 098:44 E, Belawan Anchorage. Duty crewman on routine rounds sighted the robbers at the forecastle and informed the bridge. Alarm was raised and crew was mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped in their boat. A search was carried out. Ship's properties were reported stolen from the forecastle store. (IMB)
3. (U) INDONESIA: On 31 July, five robbers armed with long knives in a small unlit high speed boat approached an underway bulk carrier near position 01:04 N - 103:41 E, 2.1 nm southwest of Pulau Takong Kecil. One of the robbers attempted to board the ship using a hook attached to a rope. Alert crew noticed the robber and raised the alarm and crew rushed to the location. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers aborted the attempted attack and moved away. Incident reported to VTIS Singapore. On arrival in Singapore, the Coast Guard boarded the ship for an investigation. (IMB)
4. (U) VIETNAM: On 31 July, Vietnam-flagged fishing ship QNg 96507 TS reported that a group of pirates from three Chinese ships boarded the fishing ship, attacked the crewmen and ransacked the ship in an area of the western Paracel Island group. The Chinese ships were white and carried the numbers 46102, 45101 and 37102 on their hulls. Several of the Vietnamese fishermen were reportedly able to obtain photographs of the boarding and robbery as it occurred. ([www.tuoitrenews.vn](http://www.tuoitrenews.vn))
5. (U) SOUTH CHINA SEA: On 28 July, A tug with a barge under tow departed Batam Island anchorage at 1600 local time for Kuantan Port, Malaysia. A duty crewman discovered that some properties on the barge were missing during routine rounds the next morning. Duty officer notified the master and owners. On arrival Kuantan port a report was lodged and the police boarded for investigation. (IMB)
6. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 July, the Duty Engineer onboard an underway product tanker discovered three robbers in the engine room near position 01:03 N - 103:36 E, 5.6nm southwest of Pulau Nipah. The robbers escaped onto the poop deck. The engineer immediately closed and locked the engine room door from inside and raised the alarm. Crew was mustered and all deck lights switched on. Hearing the alarm and seeing crew alertness, the robbers escaped in their boat. A search was carried out. No robbers found on board and nothing reported stolen. VTIS Singapore informed. Singapore Coast Guard boarded the tanker for investigation upon arrival at Singapore Pilot Eastern Boarding Area. (IMB)
7. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 July, an unknown number of persons in an unlit boat attempted to board an underway tanker near position 01:04 N - 103:36 E, 5.1 nm southwest of Pulau Nipah. Duty crewmen observed the boat approaching to within 20 meters. Crew flashed lights resulting in the boat aborting the attempt and moving away. VTIS Singapore informed. (IMB)
8. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 July, two duty crewmen onboard an underway bulk carrier saw two robbers armed with knives in the engine room stealing engine spares near position 01:03 N - 103:39 E, 4.3 nm southwest of Pulau Takong Kecil. Emergency alarm raised, crew mustered and all deck lights activated. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped in their unlit boat with the stolen spares. (IMB)
9. (U) INDIA: On 24 July, at 0445 local time, a duty watchman informed duty officer on the bridge that two robbers had boarded an anchored product tanker via the forecastle near position 23:01 N - 070:13 E, Kandla Port Anchorage. The alarm was raised and crew was mustered. Seeing crew's alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. (IMB)
10. (U) INDIA: On 23 July, at 2345 local time, a duty officer on board an anchored product tanker noticed two robbers who had boarded the ship using a ladder in a small boat near position 23:01 N - 070:13 E, Kandla Port Anchorage. Ship's Master raised the general alarm followed by a general loudspeaker announcement. All crew gathered on the forecastle deck. Upon hearing alarm and seeing crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard

and escaped. Nothing reported stolen. Port Control informed and security message sent to all vessels on VHF Channel-16. (IMB)

11. (U) ANDAMAN SEA: On 26 July, two pirates boarded the Indonesia-flagged fishing boat MAJU JAYA near position 04:53 N - 098:37 E, approximately 60 nm north of Balewan. The pirates ransacked the fishing boat, stole the vessel's documents, electronics, personal mobile phones and fuel, and then departed. Crew unharmed. (www.fleetmon.com)

12. (U) TAIWAN: On 24 July, Taiwan's Coast Guard Administration (CGA) busted an alleged smuggling ring near the outlying island of Kinmen, where they say officials found shoreline village fishermen were doing a thriving business trafficking high-value goods destined for both Taiwan and China. Five suspects were arrested during the operation, and the cargo was seized. A Coast Guard official said the confiscated cargo was so diverse that "it was almost like they were operating an offshore supermarket." The contraband included consumer electronic goods, automotive parts and accessories for home appliances, Taiwanese tea, pineapple cakes, goat milk powder and chocolate bars. There were also cosmetics, children's books, traditional medicines, herbal medication patches, and other pharmaceutical items. (Taipei Times)

13. (U) VIETNAM: On 24 July, the Vietnamese Coast Guard caught two Thailand-flagged boats smuggling fuel to two Vietnamese fishing boats in the southwestern waters off Phu Quoc Island. One of the Thai boats was carrying 100,000 liters of diesel with three Thai people and four Cambodians aboard. The other, which was carrying 300,000 liters of the diesel oil, had six Cambodians, together with four Thais and a Lao person. The Vietnamese boats had around 30,000 liters. They could not produce legal documents for the oil. According to the coast guard, crew members on the Thai boats said they had been transferring diesel oil to Vietnamese fishing boats illegally, and had done that many times before. (www.baomoi.com)

14. (U) SOUTH CHINA SEA: On 21 July, two Vietnam-flagged fishing boats reported being chased and rammed by a Chinese ship in an area approximately 15 nm west of the western section of the Spratly Islands. Both fishing boat captains reported that navigation lights and other parts of their boats were damaged as a result of the repeated ramming. Reportedly, the Chinese ship had the number 994 on the hull. (www.vietnambreakingnews.com)

15. (U) VIETNAM: On 15 July, eight robbers in two wooden boats boarded a berthed bulk carrier near position 10:45 N - 106:42 E, Fertilizer Terminal, Ho Chi Minh City Port. Duty crewman on routine rounds noticed the robbers and informed the duty officer who raised the alarm. Several duty crewmen proceeded towards the robbers but stopped when they saw the robbers were armed with long knives. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with the ship's stolen properties in their boats. (IMB)

16. (U) VIETNAM: On 11 July, robbers boarded an anchored product tanker near position 10:10 N - 107:05 E, Vung Tau Anchorage. They stole ship's stores and escaped. The incident was noticed later in the day and reported to the authorities. (IMB)

J. (U) **NORTH ASIA:** No current incidents to report.

K. (U) **PACIFIC OCEAN - SOUTHERN OCEAN:** No current incidents to report.

## 5. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

### (U) Contact

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

## (U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: [http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm).

## 6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

### (U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

- **(U) Attempted Boarding** – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- **(U) Blocking** – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.
- **(U) Boarding** – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.
- **(U) Firing Upon** – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.
- **(U) Hijacking** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.
- **(U) Kidnapping** – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.
- **(U) Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- **(U) Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

### (U) Sourcing

(U) ONI derives information in this report from direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources.

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Denmark
- BBC News
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- Fairplay (FP), London
- Informa Group (INFO), formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- gCaptain

- Latitude38.com (LAT) website
- Lloyd's List (LL), daily, London
- Local Media (LM)
- LSS-SAPU.com (LSS)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), U.S.
- The Maritime Executive (website)
- Maritime Security Centre - Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
- Maritime Security Council (MSC), U.S.
- Maritime Trade Information Sharing Centre - Gulf of Guinea (MTISC-GoG)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Brussels
- Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) (analysis and comment)
- Operator (owner or operator of affected vessel)
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- Seafarers' Assistance Program (SAP), Kenya
- Tradewinds (TW)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain
- U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

(U) ICOD: 5 August 2015